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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: SEAN R. WAKAYAMA

Serial Number: 08/917,480

Filed: August 26, 1997

Title: RECONFIGURATION CONTROL SYSTEM
FOR AN AIRCRAFT WING

Atty. Docket # R-8767

Group Art Unit: 3641

Examiner: Dinh, T.

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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

BOX AF:

Hon. Assistant Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

BOX AF:

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed February 1, 1999, please re-consider the final rejection of the pending claims of the present application in view of the following "Remarks":

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. The Office Action rejects Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ashkenas (U.S. Patent Number 2,549,045). Applicant respectfully traverses this prior art rejection of Claims 1-20 for the reasons set forth below.

The Examiner asserts that "[b]y control or orienting the control surfaces at certain positions, pitch maneuver or maximizing lifting force with stall can be achieved by Ashkenas' control surfaces." In the Examiner's "Response to [Applicant's previously-filed] Amendment", the Examiner states that "[p]lease note that the control surfaces of Ashkenas are reconfigurable to a plurality of predetermined positions to optimize the force distribution (or lift)." The Examiner further asserts that "Ashkenas clearly teaches control surfaces that are selectively reconfigurable